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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1942

J. W. INNES, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

WHITEHAVEN

Printed by The Whitehaven News, Ltd., 148, Queen Street

1943

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Chairman Alderman STEPHENSON.

Vice-Chairman Councillor CLAYTON.

The Mayor (Alderman F. Harvey).

Aldermen—HINDE and WILKINSON.

Councillors—BROWNE, DICK, KNIPE, and McSHERRY.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman Alderman STEPHENSON.

Vice-Chairman Councillor CLAYTON.

The Members of the Health and Housing Committee with
Mesdames EVANS, JOHNSON, and WIGNALL.

REPRESENTATIVES ON THE WEST CUMBERLAND JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.

Councillor CLAYTON—Chairman of the Board.

Alderman STEPHENSON.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

J. W. INNES, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>
J. L. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	<i>Deputy Medical Officer of Health (on Military Service).</i>
*ALLAN S. MOODIE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	<i>Assistant Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.</i>
H. HILTON, L.D.S.	<i>Dental Officer (resigned 25.3.42).</i>
G. B. HOPKIN, L.D.S.	<i>Dental Officer (appointed 4.5.42).</i>
J. F. LORD, C.R.S.I.	<i>Sanitary Inspector.</i>
J. H. RILEY, C.R.S.I.	<i>Additional Sanitary Inspector.</i>
Miss BERRY	<i>Health Visitor and School Nurse.</i>
Miss LODGE	<i>Do.</i>
Miss HODGSON	<i>Do.</i>
*Mrs. MESSENGER... ..	<i>Do.</i>

The above are fully trained Nurses, and hold the C.M.B. Certificate, and the Health Visitors' Certificate.

Miss FIELD, C.M.B.	<i>Dental Attendant.</i>
J. WEAR, C.R.S.I.	<i>Clerk (on Military Service)</i>
Miss DAVIDSON	<i>Clerk-Typist.</i>
*Mrs. ROWE	<i>Do.</i>
*Miss G. BANKS	<i>Do.</i>
*Miss C. BANKS	<i>Matron War-time Nursery (appointed 10.10.42).</i>
Mrs. S. KENDAL, S.R.N.	<i>Housing Welfare Officer (appointed 1.4.42).</i>

*—Temporary War Appointment.

PART TIME.

A. W. PATTON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.	<i>Ophthalmic Surgeon.</i>
J. STEVEN FAULDS, M.D., F.R.F.P.S.	<i>Bacteriologist; Cumberland Laboratory.</i>
R. S. VENTERS, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.	<i>Consultant Ear, Nose and Throat.</i>
G. P. MILNE, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.O.G. ...	<i>Consultant Gynaecologist.</i>
C. J. H. STOCK, B.Sc., F.I.C.	<i>Analyst.</i>
W. LITT, M.R.C.V.S.	<i>Veterinary Inspector.</i>



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TOWN HALL,
WHITEHAVEN,

23rd June, 1943.

*To His Worship the Mayor,
The Aldermen and Councillors,
Borough of Whitehaven.*

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health for the year 1942.

The Report has again been kept as brief as possible whilst retaining the main features in order to maintain continuity of records.

The statistics for the year show that the general health of the community has been well maintained and they do not differ materially from those of the previous year.

The General Death Rate showed a slight increase from 11.6 to 12.0, and the Infantile Mortality Rate was also somewhat higher at 65, as compared with 58. On the other hand, deaths from Tuberculosis were 0.96 per thousand of population as compared with 1.35—a noteworthy reduction in face of present conditions.

Apart from Scarlet Fever (81 cases) and Measles (45 cases), the Borough was remarkably free from notifiable infectious diseases, and leaving aside Tuberculosis and Pneumonia, there were only three deaths from such diseases, one each from Measles, Whooping Cough, and Polio-Encephalitis. The absence of any deaths from Diphtheria for six consecutive years—and indeed the almost entire absence of the disease itself for the past four years—is most gratifying and is, in my opinion, a notable result of the immunisation campaign which has been going on in this district since 1936. I would, however, again stress the point that sufficient babies are not being immunised, and that to have these unprotected simply because

Diphtheria is not now prevalent, is equivalent to staking their lives on the fact that other parents have done their duty, and is fraught with dangerous possibilities for the unprotected. Special facilities are provided at each Welfare Centre for the immunisation of infants and one would appeal to all parents to bring their babies to be immunised immediately after their first birthday.

The Health and Sanitary Services have been maintained so far on their pre-war standard with the exception of housing, and in that connection it is recognised that considerable arrears are inevitably accumulating—a circumstance to which the appropriate Committee is not oblivious and to which that Committee has already directed some attention with a view to tackling the situation as soon as circumstances permit, and on a much bolder scale than has hitherto been envisaged.

An addition to services provided has been the establishment of a War-time Nursery for the daily care of children between the ages of six months and five years belonging to mothers engaged, directly or indirectly, on war work. This was opened in December, and at first the response was rather disappointing. Whilst it is recognised that the provision is not adequate for a number of mothers since the time the nursery is open does not cover the period of the mothers' absence from home, one hopes that the Nursery will receive the support it deserves since such an institution has large possibilities in a Welfare scheme, apart from its war-time use, and any future development would largely be regulated by the success of the present experiment.

Special credit is due to the Matron, Miss C. Banks, for the enthusiasm and energy with which she set about the organising and fitting up of the Nursery.

Another addition to the Service was the appointment in April, 1942, of Mrs. S. Kendal, a fully trained and experienced Nurse, as Housing Welfare Officer, with the primary object of ensuring the welfare of all Council tenants and the proper care

and use of Council houses. During the year she visited all Council tenants and has succeeded in effecting a substantial improvement in cases where tenants had not responded satisfactorily to their new environment.

In conclusion may I once more express my indebtedness to the members of my staff for their continued loyal support and their effort to maintain the efficiency of the Department in spite of present conditions; to the members of all other departments who have invariably given full co-operation, and to the Chairman and Members of the Committees concerned with the work of this Department for their support and encouragement in all matters affecting the Health and Welfare of the Borough.

I am,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. W. INNES,

Medical Officer of Health.

A.—STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

I.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of Borough in acres	...	...	...	...	4,315
Registrar General's estimate of resident population, (mid year, 1942)	...	...	...	...	...
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1942) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	6,054
Rateable Value (1st April, 1942)	...	...	...	...	£102,108
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£387

EXTRACTS FROM
VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

BIRTHS.		<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Live Births—Legitimate	...	205	206	411
—Illegitimate	...	7	13	20
Total	...	212	219	431
Birth Rate per 1,000 of Population			18.8	
		<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Still Births—Legitimate	...	8	4	12
—Illegitimate	...	1	1	2
Total	...	9	5	14
Rate per 1,000 total births			31.5	
DEATHS.		<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Deaths (all ages)	...	144	132	276
Death Rate per 1,000 of Population	...		12.0	

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 (Live & Still) Births.</i>
From Sepsis	...	<i>nil</i>
From other causes	...	4.49
Total	...	4.49

Death Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	65
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	63
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	100

Deaths from

Cancer (all ages)	42
Measles (all ages)	1
Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	5

BIRTHS.

Birth Rate per 1,000 of Population	18.8
„ „ England and Wales	15.8
„ „ 126 Great Towns	17.3
„ „ 148 Smaller Towns	18.4
„ „ (population 25,000—50,000)	
„ „ London Ad. County	14.0
„ „ County of Cumberland	16.8

The number of live births registered during the year was 431, 212 males and 219 females, of whom 7 males and 13 females were illegitimate. The Birth Rate was 18.8 per thousand of estimated resident population, the rate being 0.1 more than the rate for 1941, whereas the rate for the country as a whole showed an increase of 1.6.

DEATHS.

Death Rate per 1,000 of Population	12.0
„ „ England and Wales	11.6
„ „ 126 Great Towns	13.3
„ „ 148 Smaller Towns	12.1
„ „ London	13.9
„ „ County of Cumberland	12.2

The number of deaths of residents belonging to the Borough, after making allowance for inward and outward transfers, was 276, viz., 144 males and 132 females, which gives a Death Rate of 12.0 per thousand.

The actual number of deaths was 2 more than in the previous year, and the Death Rate 0.4 more as compared with a fall in the Death Rate for the country as a whole of 1.3.

The chief causes of death during the year were Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System 82; Cancer 42; Respiratory Diseases, Pneumonia, Bronchitis, etc., 34, and Tuberculosis 22.

The ages of all cases who died during 1942 and the cause of death are shown in the following Tables:—

AGE AT DEATH OF ALL CASES, WHITEHAVEN BOROUGH, 1942.

Age Groups	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	Over 65	Total
Males ...	12	1	2	—	—	1	4	5	2	3	15	13	24	62	144
Females ...	16	1	—	—	1	—	1	5	4	7	2	14	20	61	132

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1942.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.
All causes	144	132
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
Measles,	1	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Influenza	2	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	9	6
Other Tuberculous Disease	2	5
Syphilis	—	—
Cancer	21	21
Diabetes	1	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	15	16
Heart Disease	24	14
Other Circulatory Diseases	6	7
Bronchitis	8	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	11	10
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	3	1
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	1	4
Appendicitis	3	2
Other Digestive Diseases	4	8
Nephritis	4	2
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	2
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, &c. ...	4	3
Road Traffic Accidents	2	—
Other Violence	5	3
Suicide	—	—
All Other Causes	15	22

MATERNAL DEATHS.

Two Maternal Deaths took place within the year.

The rate per 1,000 total births as compared with the corresponding rates for the whole country were:—

	<i>No. of Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 Total Births.</i>	<i>England and Wales.</i>
From Sepsis ...	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>	0.42
From other causes	2	4.49	1.59
	—	—	—
Total	2	4.49	2.01
	—	—	—
	<i>No. of Notifications.</i>		
Notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia ...	13	29.21	12.61

INFANTILE DEATHS.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per thousand live births:—

Legitimate, 63, Illegitimate, 100.	Total, 65
England and Wales	49
126 Great Towns	59
148 Smaller Towns	46
London	60
County of Cumberland	57

The number of deaths of children under one year of age during 1942 was 28, viz., 12 males and 16 females, which gives an Infantile Mortality Rate of 65 per 1,000 registered live births.

This rate shows an increase of 7 compared with that for the previous year.

The chief causes of the Infantile Deaths were Bronchitis and Pneumonia which accounted for 9 of the 28 deaths, Prematurity and Congenital Defects which accounted for 7, and Enteritis which accounted for 5. Six or 21% of the deaths occurred in the neo-natal period, that is within the first month of life. The Mortality Rates for Male and Female Infants respectively were 57 and 73.

Births, Infantile Deaths, and Infantile Mortality Rates by wards are shown in the following table.

	Bransty	Iarbour	Kells	Sandwith	Central	Hensingham	Totals
Registered Births	65	62	88	99	66	51	431
Infantile Deaths	3	3	2	10	3	7	28
Infantile Mortality Rate	46	48	23	101	45	137	65

The causes and age at death are shown in the accompanying Table:—

INFANTILE DEATHS SHOWN BY AGES AND CAUSE OF DEATH, 1942.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	AGE IN WEEKS.				AGE IN MONTHS						Total Deaths.
	Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	Under 1 M'th	1—2	2—3	3—6	6—9	9—12	
Premature Birth	2	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Congenital Malformations and Debility	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	4
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	3	1	9
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	5
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Other Causes	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	2	6
	4	2	—	—	6	4	4	6	5	3	28

B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH.

I.—(1) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

A list is given at the beginning of the report showing the above Officers.

There were no changes in staff during 1942. An addition was the appointment in April of Mrs. S. Kendal as **Housing Welfare Officer**.

Sanction for the employment of an additional Health Visitor and School Nurse was obtained, and an appointment was made to commence at the beginning of 1943.

(2) SERVICES PROVIDED IN THE AREA.

The only addition to Services provided was the War-time Nursery opened in Castle Park in December.

(a) *Welfare Centres.*

The two Centres were held weekly, Sandhills Lane on Wednesdays and Kells on Fridays. The percentage, in relation to notified births, of children under one year of age who were brought to the Centre for the first time was 85 per cent., an increase of 22 per cent.

The figures for the two Centres during the year were as follows:—

	<i>Sandhills Lane.</i>	<i>Kells.</i>	<i>Total Borough.</i>
No. of Sessions	51	50	101
No. of children 0-1 years of age who attended for the first time... ..	242	124	366
No. of children 1-5 years of age who attended for the first time... ..	47	35	82
Total attendance... ..	2,864	2,175	5,039
Average attendance per Session	56	44	—

Milk Food in the form of dried milk was issued to the extent of 6,343lb.

(b) *Ante-Natal Clinic.*

The Ante-Natal Clinic has been held each Monday at the Sandhills Lane Centre, and the figures for attendances are as follows:—

Total attendances of expectant mothers ...	1,445
No. of expectant mothers who attended ...	369
Average attendance per Session	30

The number of expectant mothers who attended showed a decrease of 12, whilst the attendances went up by 295.

Domiciliary Ante-Natal Examinations.

The number of expectant mothers who were examined under this scheme during the year was 281, and the number of reports received was 375, 20 more than in 1941:—

First Reports ...	...	...	...	...	281
Second Reports ...	...	...	...	...	92
Third Reports ...	...	...	...	...	1
Fourth Reports ...	...	...	...	...	1

The cost to the Council for these reports was £93 15s. od.

Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic.

Dr. Milne, the consulting gynaecologist, saw 24 new cases, 3 post-natal, and did 13 re-examinations.

(c) *Artificial Sunlight Clinic.*

An Artificial Sunlight Clinic was held twice weekly throughout the year at the Sandhills Lane Centre.

During the year 28 babies attended, making a total of 298 attendances.

(d) *Dental Clinic.*

The figures for the dental work for the year are shown in the following table:—

	<i>Expectant Mothers.</i>	<i>Nursing Mothers.</i>	<i>Pre-School Children.</i>
Numbers specially referred to dental clinics by Medical Officer ...	...	...	...
55	8	34	
Numbers who actually attended ...	...	...	...
44	8	39	
Numbers found to be in need of treatment ...	...	...	...
44	8	39	
Numbers who received treatment ...	...	...	...
59	11	39	
Total attendances ...	...	...	...
188	47	70	

Number of treatments

(a)	Fillings	...	...	
	(1) in temporary teeth	—	—	—	—	33
	(2) in permanent teeth	9	—	—	—	—
(b)	Number of teeth extracted	...	...	293	90	101
(c)	Scaling and Gum treatment	...	...	12	3	—
(d)	Other Operations	...	...	12	10	21
(e)	Number of administrations of (i) general anaesthesia	...	...	—	—	40
	(ii) Local anaesthesia	61	13	—	—	—
(f)	Number of patients supplied with dentures	21	6	—	—	—
(g)	Number of dentures supplied	...	...	33 full	9 full	—
				4 partial	1 repair	—

Of the above dentures, six were supplied at reduced cost-price, the remainder being paid for at full cost.

(e) Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.

The Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic is held on the second and fourth Friday of each month at the Sandhills Lane Centre, which Child Welfare cases can attend along with School cases. The following table shows the Child Welfare cases dealt with:

No. of new cases seen	...	...	...	...	9
Total cases seen	...	...	...	...	14
No. of cases referred for operation treatment	...	...	...	...	9
No. of cases referred for other treatment	...	...	...	...	1
No. of cases referred for observation	...	...	...	...	1
No. of cases operated on (all Tonsils and Adenoids)	...	...	...	...	8

(f) Eye Clinic.

An Eye Clinic was held each Thursday at Sandhills Lane Clinic, at which the following Child Welfare cases were dealt with:—

No. of new cases seen	...	...	...	...	15
Total cases seen	...	...	...	...	43
No. of Refractions	...	...	...	...	40
No. of other defects	...	...	...	...	3
Glasses prescribed	...	...	...	...	11
Glasses obtained	...	...	...	...	8

(g) *Orthopaedic Treatment.*

During the year, eighteen children under school age made 66 attendances at the Orthopaedic Clinic. Two children of this age were admitted to the Ethel Hedley Hospital, Windermere.

(h) *War-Time Nursery.*

A War-Time Day Nursery of forty places was established for the reception of children under five whose mothers were engaged, directly or indirectly, on war-work. Owing to the long hours which mothers are away from home—the chief employment of the women concerned entailing a considerable amount of travelling to and from work—it was felt that an ordinary day nursery would not adequately meet the situation, and this has been borne out in actual practice. The Nursery was opened on the 7th December, 1942, and to the 31st December, the average daily attendance was only seven. It is hoped that the situation will improve as the mothers become familiar with the idea, but the time question will certainly remain an obstacle.

(i) *Hospitals.*

The position as regards hospital accommodation remains as stated in previous Reports.

II.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

(I)—MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

(a) *Midwives.* These are provided by the County Council as Local Supervising Authority, four full-time midwives being provided. They work in close co-operation with the Officers of the Local Authority and attend the weekly Ante-Natal Clinic, for the supervision of their cases. Copies of all Domiciliary Ante-Natal reports relating to their cases are supplied to them.

(b) *Maternity Services.* The Town Council continued their arrangement with the Whitehaven and West Cumberland Hospital by which maternity cases coming within the Council's Income Scale are received into that institution, through arrangements made by the Local Authority.

During the year 35 cases were admitted through the Local Authority, but altogether 136 Borough confinements took place in Hospital.

Puerperal Cases. By arrangement with the County Council, cases of Puerperal Infection occurring either in Hospital or in the Borough are transferred for treatment to Crozier Lodge, Carlisle. There were 3 cases so admitted during the year.

(c) *Health Visitors.* Four Health Visitors act also as School Nurses, each combining the duties of the two posts for an area including a group of schools. There were no changes in the personnel during the year.

The number of home visits showed an increase of 1,364 for the year, as compared with the number for the previous year—a most praiseworthy effort on the part of all the Health Visitors in view of the extra calls that have been made upon their time.

The visits made by each visitor are detailed below:—

	Miss Berry	Miss Lodge *	Miss Hodgson	Mrs. Messenger	Total
First visits to children under one year of age ...	115	72	120	106	413
Re-visits to children under one year of age ...	912	818	1,306	950	3,986
Visits to children : 1—5 years of age	1,780	1,606	1,748	1,842	6,976
Visits to Expectant Mothers	98	88	114	65	365
Total	2,905	2,584	3,288	2,963	11,740

* Off duty from 9—5—42 to 17—8—42 on account of illness.

(d) *Child Life Protection.*—The Local Authority discharges the functions under Part VII of the Public Health Act, 1936, with reference to the supervision of children under nine years of age who are maintained for reward apart from their parents, through the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. The Health Visitors and Mrs. Wignall are the designated Child Protection Visitors.

During the year, 7 children were on the Register and were kept under regular supervision, reports being submitted to each meeting of the Committee. By the end of the year there were 3 remaining on the register, two children having been transferred to the care of their mothers, one having been legally adopted, and one having attained the age of nine years.

C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

All sanitary matters are dealt with fully in the Sanitary Inspector's Report, which is printed as an Appendix.

D.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

I. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

Infectious diseases notified during the year are shown by age-groups in the following table with the number admitted to Hospital and the number of deaths from these diseases.

The number of notifications of infectious diseases received during the year showed quite an increase over the figure for the previous year. They consisted mainly of Scarlet Fever and Measles which were both prevalent, especially in the late part of the year.

Otherwise there was nothing of note apart from the continued reduction in Diphtheria cases—only two being notified.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified.	Under 1 Year.	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65	Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	81	1	—	2	8	3	39	21	3	4	—	—	—	11	—
Diphtheria ...	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	1	—	—	*3	—
Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal) ...	22	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	3	1	10	3	—	21 forms
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal-Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	45	3	4	3	3	4	23	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough ...	10	2	1	—	1	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Polio-Encephalitis ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

*7 were notified from Whitehaven Hospital.

*3 were admitted to Crozier Lodge, Carlisle.

SMALLPOX.

No case of Smallpox occurred during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.

Eighty-one cases were notified during the year—a very considerable increase over the numbers for the past number of years. Eleven cases were admitted to Hospital because of special circumstances, and there were no deaths, the cases being generally of a mild type.

DIPHTHERIA.

Only two cases were notified during the year. These were treated in Hospital and both recovered. In addition, five cases were admitted as suspected cases of Diphtheria. One of these was a definite case of Scarlet Fever, and the other four were discharged as negative cases.

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

The scheme for immunising children against Diphtheria was carried on during the year both through the schools and Welfare Clinics—special sessions being held at both Centres for the purpose.

During 1942, a total of 989 immunisations were completed, 524 in the 5-15 years-of-age group, and 465 in the younger groups 0-5 years.

The total number of immunisations carried out in the Borough since the scheme was first introduced has now reached the total of 6,481.

Whilst the position in regard to the older children is eminently satisfactory, it is still difficult to get a satisfactory proportion of infants immunised in spite of the publicity that has been given to the scheme. The position is, however, gradually improving, and more than three times the number of infants were immunised during 1942 than in the previous year.

PERCENTAGES OF CHILD POPULATION IMMUNISED:

(a) 5-15 years of age.

Taking the age-groups 1928-1937 inclusive as the 5-15 years-of-age group of children—estimated at 4,100—the actual number immunised on the 31st December, 1942, of whom the Local Authority has details, amounted to 3,719, representing

91 per cent. of these children. A few others may have been done privately of whom particulars are not available, but this would not materially affect the position.

(b) *0-5 years of age.*

Taking the age-groups 1938-1942 inclusive as the 0-5 years-of-age group of children—estimated at 2,000—the actual number immunised on the 31st December, 1942, of whom the Local Authority has details, amounted to 690, representing 35 per cent. of these children. Actually in this group, since immunisation is not done until the children have attained the age of one, the percentage immunised of those available for immunisation would really be 44 per cent.

ENTERIC FEVER.

No cases of enteric fever were notified during the year.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Thirteen cases were notified, of whom seven were notified from Whitehaven Hospital. Of these seven cases, two were removed to Crozier Lodge, Carlisle, under the arrangements made with the County Council for the treatment of Puerperal Septicaemia. Of the six cases notified from home, one was admitted to Whitehaven Hospital, one to Crozier Lodge, and the other four were nursed at home. All the notified cases recovered.

PNEUMONIA.

Twenty-two cases of Acute, Primary, or Influenzal Pneumonia were notified, an increase of 10 cases as compared with the number for 1941. The number of deaths from Pneumonia (all forms) was 21, an increase of 2.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Three cases were notified. All were treated at home, and all recovered without apparent impairment of vision.

ERYSIPELAS.

Six cases were notified.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

No cases were notified, but actually seven were admitted to Hospital as possible cases, and the diagnosis was confirmed in one. This case made a complete recovery.

MEASLES.

Forty-five cases were notified, as against none in the previous year, and one child died of this disease. At the close of the year there was a considerable epidemic in progress.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Ten cases were notified for the year with one death.

POLIO-ENCEPHALITIS.

One child was notified from Whitehaven Hospital as Polio-Encephalitis and died there.

II.—CANCER.

There were 42 deaths from Cancer during the year, an increase of 9 compared with the number in 1941. The Mortality Rate from this disease was 1.83 per 1,000 of population, exactly the same as the figure for the country as a whole.

The sites of the lesions were as follows:—

<i>Males.</i>				<i>Females.</i>			
Jaw	...	...	1	Tongue	...	...	1
Stomach	...	...	9	Oesophagus	...	...	1
Pancreas	...	...	1	Stomach	...	...	2
Rectum	...	...	1	Liver	...	...	1
Mediastinum	...	...	1	Colon	...	...	3
Lung	...	...	3	Rectum	...	...	2
Prostate	...	...	2	Breast	...	...	5
Generative Organs	...	...	3	Ovaries	...	...	2
				Uterus	...	...	3
				Lung	...	...	1
			—				—
			21				21
			—				—

The average age at death of all cases was 62.5 years—of males 62, and of females 63.

III.—PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS, ETC.

No action was taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes, nor was any action required under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

IV.—TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table shows the new cases and mortality for the Borough of Whitehaven during 1942 by age groups and sex:—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Male	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0— 1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
1— 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5—10	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
10—15	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
15—20	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	3
20—25	2	5	1	2	1	3	0	1
25—35	3	1	0	1	2	1	0	1
35—45	3	1	0	0	4	0	0	0
45—55	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
55—65	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	17	11	4	6	9	6	2	5

Total new cases 38
Total Deaths 22
Death Rate per 1,000 of population:—

	<i>Whitehaven.</i>			<i>England and Wales.</i>
Respiratory 	0.65			0.54
Non-Respiratory 	0.31			0.12
All forms 	0.96			0.66

Included in the above figures both for deaths and new cases, were five deaths that had not been previously notified, the proportion of non-notified deaths being 23 per cent.

New cases showed a decrease, compared with 1941, of 11, and deaths a decrease of 10, but the Mortality Rate from Tuberculosis in Whitehaven was still practically 50 per cent. in excess of the rate for the whole country.

SANATORIUM TREATMENT.

	In Institutions 1st Jan. 1942.	Admitted	Dis- charged.	Died.	In Institutions 1st Jan. 1943
PULMONARY CASES:					
Men	2	7	9	—	—
Women	5	11	10	2	4
Boys	4	5	2	—	7
Girls	—	—	—	—	—
NON-PULMONARY CASES:					
Men	—	1	—	—	1
Women	—	2	1	1	—
Boys	—	—	—	—	—
Girls	—	1	—	—	1
OBSERVATION CASES:					
Males	2	3	2	—	3
Females	1	3	3	—	1
Total	14	33	27	3	17

The above Table shows the number of Tuberculosis cases and Observation Tuberculosis cases from the Borough of Whitehaven that received Sanatorium treatment under the County Council Scheme during 1942. Altogether 47 cases from Whitehaven were treated in Sanatoria during the year.

The number of notified cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1942 was:—

Pulmonary—Males	...	...	...	106
—Females	...	...	...	104
Non-Pulmonary—Males	...	...	...	25
—Females	...	...	...	29

Total ... 264

APPENDIX
SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
REPORT

TOWN HALL,
WHITEHAVEN.

31st December, 1942.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
WHITEHAVEN.

Sir,

I beg to submit my twentieth Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1942.

Seventy-two preliminary notices have been served during the year, and it has not been necessary to serve any statutory notices. Only work of an urgent nature has been asked for, and this has been done whenever possible without delay.

INSPECTIONS.

Visits to Slaughterhouses	582
„ „ Bakehouses	48
„ „ Factories	91
„ „ Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milk Shops	81
„ „ Food Preparing Premises	217
„ „ Shops	73
„ „ Schools	12
„ „ Common Lodging House	44
„ „ Rat Infested Premises	104
„ „ Caravans attending Fairs	38
„ „ Offensive Trades	12
„ „ Vessels in Harbour	37
Cases of Infectious Disease investigated	102
Visits after Infectious Disease	68
Milk Samples obtained	120
Water Samples obtained	21
Drains tested	28
Housing inspections under Public Health Act	304
Interviews with owners or occupiers	474
Miscellaneous Visits and Inspections	371
Total	2,827

IMPROVEMENTS.

Obstructed drains cleansed	25
New gullies fixed	4
Drains repaired or relaid	11
New pedestal W.C.s provided	37
New flushing cisterns fixed	15
Flushing cisterns repaired	8
New sinks fixed	1

Inspections chambers built	...	...	...	...	2
Septic tanks provided	...	...	...	...	1
House roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	14
Plastering repaired	...	...	...	...	4
New spouting fixed	...	...	...	...	4
Water supply improved	...	...	...	...	1
Dust bins provided	...	...	...	...	44
Cowsheds limewashed	...	...	...	...	50
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	5
Nuisances from animals removed	...	...	...	...	4
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	20
Houses disinfested	...	...	...	...	9
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	7
Total					266

FACTORIES.

One hundred and thirty-nine visits have been paid to factories, and the following contraventions were observed, viz. :—

Defective sanitary conveniences	...	...	1
Dirty sanitary conveniences	...	...	2
Want of limewashing	...	...	1
Total			4

In all cases, the work was carried out on verbal notice being given.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

During the year 73 visits were paid to shops and no defects were observed.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action was taken during the year.

VERMINOUS HOUSES.

The number of houses found to be infested with vermin was, viz. :—

Council houses	...	...	...	3
Other houses	...	...	...	6

In the case of Council houses, the skirting boards and picture rails were removed, the premises sprayed and fumigated. In the other houses spraying was carried out, the insecticide used being “Zaldecide” or “Pyagra”.

HOUSING.

No systematic housing work has been done during the year, and inspections have been confined to premises in respect of which complaint has been received. Defects or nuisances of an urgent nature have been remedied but no work involving extensive repair or alteration has been attempted.

OVERCROWDING.

No accurate figure can be given regarding overcrowding. Owing to the difficult conditions existing at present, it is not possible to insist on the fixed standard being maintained but very bad cases are dealt with whenever it is possible to do so, usually by an exchange of houses in the case of Council houses, and by arrangement with the owners where privately owned property is involved.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 25 producers resident in the Borough, viz.:—1 tuberculin tested, 14 accredited, and 10 ungraded. In addition 13 outside producers, viz.:—3 tuberculin tested, 5 accredited, 4 ungraded, and 1 pasteurised, supply milk either wholesale or retail in Whitehaven.

There are 30 retailers registered for the sale of milk, viz.:

- 18 Producer-Retailers resident in the Borough.
- 4 Producer-Retailers resident outside the Borough.
- 8 Retailers resident inside or outside the Borough.

SAMPLES.

During the year, 120 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. Of these, 27 were tuberculin tested, 67 accredited, and 26 ungraded. Of the 27 tuberculin tested, 25 were satisfactory, one contained B.Coli to an excessive degree, and one failed the methylene blue and B.Coli test. Of the 67 accredited samples, 42 were satisfactory, 9 failed to pass the methylene blue test, 3 contained excessive B.Coli and 13 were unsatisfactory in both respects. Of the 26 ungraded samples, 17 were satisfactory, 6 failed in the methylene blue test, one contained excessive B.Coli and 2 were unsatisfactory in both respects.

The examinations show an improvement on the 1941 figures, 70% being satisfactory, against 63% in the previous year.

Eighty-one visits have been paid to the cowsheds and dairies, and generally they have been found satisfactory.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

The central slaughterhouse, which serves the Borough of Whitehaven and the Ennerdale Rural District, has been conducted satisfactorily.

As in previous years, 100% inspection has been maintained and the relations between the members of the department with the slaughterhouse manager, the Wholesale Meat Agent, and the Retail Buying Committee have continued to be satisfactory.

The following Table shows the number of animals slaughtered and the condemnations during the year.

CARCASSES INSPECTED. AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,459	537	2,416	22,581	112
Number inspected ...	1,459	537	2,416	22,581	112
<i>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	4	8	25	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	23		2	45	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	1.5		0.41	0.31	6.25
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	12	1	—	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	228		3	—	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	12.17		0.16	—	6.25

OTHER ARTICLES OF FOOD SURRENDERED AND DESTROYED.

Miscellaneous tinned meats	...	...	...	3,263lb.
Miscellaneous fruits and cereals	...	...	...	1,236lb.
Ox Sweetbreads	...	...	...	7lb.
Butter	...	...	...	37lb.
Bacon	...	...	...	34lb.
Sausages	...	...	...	160lb.
Fish	...	...	...	288lb.
Potatoes	...	...	...	112lb.
Yeast	...	...	...	201lb.
Eggs	...	...	...	Eight doz.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There is still only one offensive trade on the Register, viz. :—A Rag and Bone Dealer.

Twelve visits have been paid to the premises and generally they have been conducted satisfactorily.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES AND HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS.

There is one common lodging house and three houses-let-in-lodgings on the register.

Forty-four visits have been paid and no serious fault has been found.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. F. LORD,

Sanitary Inspector.

